

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A webbing insertion member comprising:  
an opening, having a width, defined by two lateral ends through which a webbing may pass; and  
a webbing guide for guiding at least one of the sides of the webbing in order to prevent the webbing from shifting along the lateral ~~longitudinal~~ direction of the opening;  
wherein the webbing guide is disposed in ~~or near~~ the opening.
2. (Currently amended) The webbing insertion member of claim 1, wherein the opening has a width ~~length~~ in the lateral ~~longitudinal~~ direction which is slightly greater than the width of the webbing, and wherein the webbing guide includes the lateral ~~longitudinal~~ ends of the opening.
3. (Currently amended) The webbing insertion member of claim 2, wherein the width ~~length~~ of the opening in the lateral ~~longitudinal~~ direction is 1.01 to 1.1 times as large as the width of the webbing.
4. (Original) A webbing insertion member for a seat belt system, comprising:  
an opening for receiving a seat belt webbing; and a belt guide for reducing the sliding and gathering of the webbing in the lateral direction of the opening during retraction of the webbing.
5. (Currently amended) An insertion member for a vehicle seat belt webbing comprising:  
a hole for pivotally connecting the member to the vehicle;  
an opening in the member through which the webbing passes; and  
a bearing surface over which the webbing slides during retraction and extraction;

wherein the width ~~length~~ of the opening is slightly greater than the width of the webbing so that as the webbing passes through, the lateral ~~opening~~ ends of the opening confront left and right sides of the webbing in order to substantially prevent the webbing from shifting laterally within the opening.

6. (Currently amended) The insertion member of claim 5, wherein the height of the opening is slightly larger than the thickness of the webbing so that the webbing cannot gather at either lateral ~~one~~ end of the opening.